

SHADOW OF WAR ON CONTINENT DRAWS CLOSE TO HONOLULU

German Gunboat Geier, For Months Interned in Harbor Fired By Crew; and Refugee Ships Made Practically Useless

ARMY AND NAVY CALLED IN AS REAL CRISIS RISES

Troops Rushed From Forts Near To City To Guard the Waterfront, Where International Tension Brings Conflict Close

(From Monday Advertiser)

WAR reached out and laid its grim hand on Honolulu yesterday. Acts resembling those of warfare, bloodless but unmistakable, were committed. Every German vessel in the harbor, interned warcraft and refugee merchant ship alike, was seized by the United States authorities, following the partial burning of the cruiser Geier at her moorings by her crew and the attempt to sink the German naval collier Locksun and the preparations to sink the big refugee steamship Pommern by opening their sea cocks.

After the Geier had been burning for several hours and her boilers had been ruined and her engines disabled, she was formally surrendered by her commander, Captain Grasshof, to Commander Hart of the submarine flotilla.

Officers and men of all the German craft were taken in charge by the federal authorities and made prisoner. Some were arrested by the United States marshal and his men on charges of violation of neutrality; most were seized by the soldiers and sailors of the United States under orders from immigration authorities and marched off to detention in the immigration sheds. The naval internes were taken to the army posts.

Following the discovery, about eight o'clock in the morning, that the Geier was burning, soldiers were rushed to the waterfront and took command from Pier 7 to the foot of Fort Street. Orders were sent to Fort Shafter, Schofield Barracks, Fort Armstrong, Pearl Harbor and wherever else soldiers or marines were stationed, and troops were rushed to the city as fast as steam could bring them.

CENSORSHIP IMPOSED

Whether or not war had actually been declared by the United States or Germany, or both, Honolulu was unable all day yesterday to learn. Soon after the fire on the German cruiser was discovered a strict censorship was imposed on the wireless and cable companies by military authorities. Practically no news of great importance was received from the mainland. Advertiser queries sent to the Associated Press remained unanswered and all attempt to send to the Associated Press and other news agencies news of the occurrences here were futile, the military authorities refusing to let anything go out.

But it was the inference and general supposition that the United States and Germany were actually at war, for the seizure of the German vessels in this port and the imprisonment of their crews savored of war, although local naval officers explained that what had happened was merely "a change of internment."

That the German officers had for several days been prepared for any emergency became evident when navy and military authorities boarded the interned and refugee vessels and discovered that the machinery of all of them had been disabled. It was learned here

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GERMANY YIELDS TO DEMANDS AMERICANS ARE SURRENDERED

Berlin 4 P. M., via London 5 P. M.—February 4 (Delayed by Censor in Honolulu)—Germany today acceded to the demands of the United States that the Americans brought to Germany as prisoners aboard the captured steamer Yarrowdale be released immediately.

These prisoners, seventy-two in number, who had been in the crews of the British ships sunk by the German raider, were liberated yesterday.

GEIER TO PEARL HARBOR WILSON STILL HOPES FOR PEACE

Manned by four of her regular crew under a heavy guard of marines and bluejackets, the S. M. S. Geier, in tow of the U. S. S. naval tug Navajo, left for Pearl Harbor at seven o'clock this morning.

The steamer Locksun will be taken to the naval base this afternoon. The fire on board the Geier is under full control. From five o'clock last night, the waterfront was quiet. Guards silently patrolled the interned vessels and docks.

NEW YORK, February 5.—Germany today faces the possibility that the greater part of the neutral world will follow the example of the United States and sever diplomatic relations, thus establishing an international boycott of that nation for its announced intention to carry on a ruthless submarine campaign. President Wilson is being quoted in many of the neutral capitals as saying that such a course would make for an early resumption of world's peace.

GERMANY IS SILENT

Officially there has been no intimation from Germany as to what attitude it will assume in view of the recall of Gerard and the dismissal of Bernstorff. No German diplomat in Europe has spoken.

A despatch from Amsterdam says that no information whatever has come out of Germany, a strict censorship being maintained and the German press being stopped from either publishing the news of the break with the United States or from commenting on the situation.

An official statement was given out from Washington last night that the government is not "seizing" the German steamers in American ports, but that they are merely being taken over by the immigration authorities until their final disposition is decided upon. In the meanwhile they will all be held by special guards.

CONSIDERING NAVAL CONVOYS

No decision has been reached as yet whether to supply naval convoys for American ships through the German blockade. The liner St. Louis, due to sail today for Liverpool, will not leave her dock here until the government reaches some conclusion, the officials of the line announce.

The liners Rochambeau, French, for Bordeaux, and the Carmania, British, for Liverpool, sailed on their scheduled dates yesterday.

The officers of the Frederik VIII, Danish, which arrived yesterday, report that the ocean is deserted. Only one ship was sighted during the past three days.

TRIED TO BLOCK CANAL

WASHINGTON, February 5.—Preliminary reports received from Cristobal, regarding the American action on Saturday which resulted in the boarding of and the seizing of the four German steamers there, indicate that efforts were being made to sink one or more of the ships at the entrance of the canal, to block navigation.

MANY SHIPS DAMAGED

NEW YORK, February 5.—Information continues to be received from a number of ports of action on the part of German crews to damage their ships before they could be seized by the port authorities.

The federal inspectors at Boston have taken action against the captain and crew of the Princess Cecilia, charging them with attempting to destroy the engines of that liner. It is reported that only superficial damage was done, but sufficient to have been serious if the plan evidently in contemplation to scuttle that ship in the harbor had been carried out.

The work upon the engines and boilers, to wreck them, was commenced on Friday, reports U. S. Marshal Mitchell.

The American liner Philadelphia, which has been threading the submarine-guarded zone, is expected to arrive at Liverpool today.

SUBMARINES HAVE SMALL SUCCESS

The report of the day indicates a small measure of success for the German submarines, only three ships, two of them neutrals, being destroyed.

The Norwegian steamer Ymer was sunk by a torpedo. The Spanish steamer Pairra was sunk by submarine shellfire, and the Ros Noviembre was sunk by a torpedo, one of her crew being killed. The land fighting in the various zones has been unmomentous.

CONGRESS READY TO ACT

WASHINGTON, February 5.—Congress is awaiting the developments from the breach with Germany with unceasing anxiety on the part of the members. A number of important measures are ready to be rushed through if it is seen that war is to come. A number of measures bearing directly upon the situation are already under way.

Among these is the naval appropriation bill, to which an emergency amendment has been proposed since the break. Under this amendment the total of the appropriations of \$350,000,000 for maintenance and construction will be increased, with the prospect that the bill will pass tomorrow. Representative Britten has another amendment ready, calling for \$119,000,000 for the immediate completion of the 113 war vessels authorized.

Representative Padgett, chairman of the naval committee, would also empower the President, by legislation, to take over for the government all private shipyards and munition plants in the event of war.

Sentiment also favors the passage of the Poindexter Bill, calling for the immediate construction of one hundred submarines.

WILSON STILL HOPES FOR PEACE NATION MEANTIME PREPARES FOR CONFLICT

WASHINGTON, February 5.—Although diplomatic relations with Germany have been severed and the world is waiting for the final crash that will precipitate the United States into the war, President Wilson and his cabinet officials still cling to the hope that actual hostilities can be avoided. While strenuously preparing to meet war if it comes the President is also striving still to bring about peace.

The news from Cabinet sources, the American representative at Plymouth, England, that the submarine which sank the American steamer Housatonic, to the bottom last Saturday off the Scilly Islands, gave the ship full warning and allowed the crew ample time in which to take to the boats, eased the situation remarkably last night. It had been feared that, should it prove that the submarine had sent the Housatonic down without the promised warning, or had bombarded her boats as was at first reported, that it would be impossible to avert actual hostilities.

As it is the report of the consul shows that the submarine commander assisted the crew after they took to the boats, and even towed the boats for some distance, after the steamer was sunk, until in fact, a British patrol boat drew near, when he cast off his lines and dived out of harm's way.

NATION PREPARING FOR WAR

The administration yesterday announced that nothing is being left undone to meet the emergency and to prepare for war. President Wilson yesterday held a conference with Senator Simmons, chairman of the senate finance committee, over the telephone, regarding some information he required on the financial situation, and he also used the telephone to talk with other congressmen and members of his cabinet. In the morning Mr. and Mrs. Wilson went to church, where the pastor prayed that the country might be guided through the present crisis without "shedding of blood."

President Wilson, it was asserted yesterday, still looks hopefully toward the other neutral countries. He has sent to the American diplomats in all of these countries instructions to explain the attitude of the United States to the authorities in the capitals where they are stationed, and to invite all the neutral nations to join the United States in this protest against the threat of ruthlessness made by Germany.

While clinging to the hope of peace the President and his advisors are still keeping a keen eye on the possibility that the rupture with Germany will lead to open war, and neither he nor the other members of the administration are abating in the least their efforts to be prepared to take part in the conflict should that duty be forced upon the country.

MAY CONVOY AMERICAN SHIPS

The question of convoying American ships through the submarine zone by American ships of war was taken up and discussed in various official circles here yesterday, but nothing definite was decided upon. The first impression was that it would be better to permit them to continue on their lawful way unprotected, but this may be changed as time and events prove otherwise.

The general assumption on the part of those who are advocating that they be allowed to go unprotected by cruisers is that Germany has had her warning, and knows now that any overt act on her part will mean that the United States will be added to the list of her foes, and will model her conduct accordingly.

AMBASSADOR IS PACKING UP

Count von Bernstorff, the former German ambassador is still busy packing his belongings and getting ready to leave the country as soon as the state department shall be able to secure him safe conduct through the lines of the Allied blockade.

He intends to turn the embassy over to the charge of Dr. Paul Ritter, envoy extraordinary from Switzerland to the United States, who will represent Germany here. In the German official circles as well as in those of the Entente diplomatic corps the feeling yesterday appeared to be that the United States, by sundering relations with Germany has put herself out of the running as a possible mediator between the belligerents. Some months ago Count von Bernstorff in an interview stated that he believed that peace when it comes, will be through the Spanish king and not through Wilson. Should the other neutral nations sever relations with Germany as suggested by President Wilson, any peace move would of necessity have to come through the Vatican.

The members of the Entente diplomatic corps are confident that the President has mistaken the temper of Germany, and that the Kaiser's government intends to go ahead with the campaign of ruthlessness, and so force the United States into an active declaration of war.

BERNSTORFF BLUNTLY ASKED TO QUIT

Lansing's Terse Note Reviews Situation

WASHINGTON, February 5.—Details of the note which Secretary of State Lansing sent to Count von Bernstorff, the former German ambassador to the United States, notifying him of the severance of diplomatic relations between this country and Germany, have become known. The message was terse, almost blunt, in its review of the developments leading up to the situation, and the manner in which the information of the actual rupture was conveyed was blunt to the extreme. The secretary of state touched upon the official correspondence that had preceded the break, reviewing the salient points of the differences between Germany and the United States, and wound up with the announcement that the American government felt that it could no longer continue friendly relations with the government of the Kaiser.

NATION IS UNITED BACKING WILSON

People Supporting President: Marshall

WASHINGTON, February 5.—Vice-President Marshall, in a statement commenting upon the address of President Wilson, in which the Chief Executive announced the severance of relations with Germany, declared that the nation is absolutely as a unit behind the President. "If President Wilson finds it necessary to deliver another and more important address," said the Vice-President, "he will then and there discover that the sentiment of the country has crystallized behind him. For months he has struggled manfully to keep this nation out of the vortex of the European war, and now that there appears the possibility that this break with Germany may lead to other and worse things, the nation will show that it appreciates his motives and trusts confidently in his sound sense."

A FORTY YEARS' TEST

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been curing coughs and colds for the past forty years and has gained its popularity every year. What better recommendation is required? For sale by all dealers, Benson, Smith & Co., agents for Hawaii.

WASHINGTON, February 5.—Opera-

tors of the secret service have been detailed to watch over the safety of the former German Ambassador, Count von Bernstorff, so as to make sure that the hospitality of the United States, which he enjoys until he leaves these shores is unviolated by some crank.

MERCHANTMEN OF GERMANY MADE USELESS BY OFFICERS

Acting "Under Orders" Captains of Teuton Refugee Ships Ruin Boilers of Vessels and Wreck Machinery With Hammers

HALF MILLION DOLLARS
WORTH OF DAMAGE DONE

Great Ships Now Little Better Than Floating Hulks: Uncle Sam Steps In and Assumes Charge Too Late to Avert Ruin

(From Monday Advertiser)

EVERY German merchant refugee vessel in the harbor has been disabled by her crew acting under "orders." Not one vessel, with the possible exception of the Setos, could put to sea. Damage will aggregate at least \$500,000, and perhaps more. The great Pommern has been damaged most seriously. Cost of her repairs might be \$150,000.

When inspection of the vessels was made yesterday morning the sailors, in answer to questions, merely said: "Orders," without saying from whom the orders had come. One replied: "Orders is orders!" Only one likely source of such instructions is known, and that is German officials in the United States. Cabled instructions to take the action revealed yesterday came to the individual captains on Wednesday last.

All members of the crews have been taken in custody by immigration authorities. The crews of the Prinz Waldemar and Pommern were arrested yesterday morning on warrants sworn to by United States District Attorney Huber charged with violating the laws of the United States by destroying engines and machinery of merchant vessels. They too were turned over to the immigration authorities last evening. Giving the aliens into charge of the immigration office assures their being held without the necessity of bringing formal charges against them.

WORK BEGAN WEDNESDAY

Work of destroying the boilers and engines of the vessels began Wednesday, it was admitted. The work on one ship, the little gasoline schooner Hermes, began a week ago, it was said by members of her crew.

Delay in preventing the damage was due in part to Washington. It is known that the capital was advised prior to yesterday of what was being done.

The ships damaged are as follows, figures being net tonnage:

Pommern	4086
Prinz Waldemar	1737
Staatssekretar Kraetke	1208
Setos	3084
Loongmoon	1245
Holstein	5840
Gouverneur Janscheke	1045
Hermes	115

Not content with starting fires under dry boilers, the German sailors also damaged engines, smashing valves, gunges and castings.

The Pommern's boilers probably are totally ruined. It must have been a hot fire, fed with tallow, that blazed in her furnace. Moreover, valves had been smashed, the dynamo battered, connection broken between the structure and commutator, this being slight, however; the engine telegraph gear on the bridge smashed and the main air pump battered.

Ready To Scuttle

A sea-cock had been prepared for opening, which would have scuttled the ship. Nuts of all the studs except one had been removed. A few turns with a wrench or a blow with a hammer would have opened the cock. Why the cock was not opened and the ship scuttled at the dock is not known.

The Waldemar's engines were damaged the most. They may be almost a complete loss. The slide valves were smashed. Her boilers also are in bad condition.

Only on the Setos was the work of destruction lacking in thoroughness. It appeared to have been done half-heartily.

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GERMANY'S FATE LIES ON WATER

So Says Admiral Scheer in Statement Telegraphed To Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin

(Associated Press by Commercial Cable) BERLIN, February 5.—The future of Germany must be decided upon the sea. Such is the gist of a telegram sent by Admiral Scheer, commanding the German main battlefleet, to the Lokal Anzeiger yesterday. Admiral Scheer said in part in the message: "My slogan for our future is that it lies upon the water. However the British sea lion gnashes his teeth we must and will attack him and force from him a free path over all the seas of the world."

Roosevelt Offers His Services To Wilson

(Associated Press by Commercial Cable) OYSTER BAY, Long Island, February 5.—Former President Roosevelt has telegraphed to President Wilson the offer of his own services and those of his four sons, in the event of open hostilities breaking out between this country and Germany.